

09/121,781

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8, 45 and 52-57, which recite that the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits one or more functions associated with binding of a chemokine to said receptor, as MCPR-02 is not disclosed as inhibiting any functions associated with binding of chemokine to CCR2 (e.g., calcium flux or transmigration). In fact, Lind *et al.* teaches the opposite, i.e., that mAb MCPR-02 induces chemotaxis and calcium flux.

Thus, none of the antibodies disclosed by Lind *et al.* anticipate the invention of Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 45 and 52-57, which recite that the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits binding of a chemokine to the receptor and inhibits one or more functions associated with binding of the chemokine to said receptor, and wherein said antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof binds the amino-terminal domain of said receptor. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (781) 861-6240.

Respectfully submitted,

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